

## IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (currently amended) A composition of mammalian common lymphoid progenitor cells, wherein at least 95% of the cells in said composition are characterized as  $c\text{-kit}^{\text{lo}}$ ,  $\text{IL-7R}\alpha^+$ ,  $\text{lin}^-$ ; and wherein ~~said an individual progenitor cells~~ cell in said composition ~~are~~ is capable of giving rise to each of T cells, B cells and natural killer cells, but not to myeloid cells.

2. (original) A composition of mammalian common lymphoid progenitor cells according to Claim 1, wherein said cells are blast cells.

3. (original) A composition of mammalian common lymphoid progenitor cells according to Claim 1, wherein said cells are further characterized as  $\text{Thy-1}^-$ .

4. (original) A composition of mammalian common lymphoid progenitor cells according to Claim 1, wherein said cells are mouse cells, and are further characterized as  $\text{Sca-1}^{\text{lo}}$ .

5. (original) A composition of mammalian common lymphoid progenitor cells according to Claim 1, wherein said cells are further characterized as  $\text{CD43}^{\text{lo}}$ ,  $\text{HSA}^{\text{lo}}$ ,  $\text{CD45}^+$  and  $\text{MEL-14}^-$ .

6. (original) A composition of mammalian common lymphoid progenitor cells according to Claim 1, wherein said cells are genetically modified to comprise an exogenous DNA vector.

7. (currently amended) A method of enrichment for a composition of mammalian common lymphoid progenitor cells, wherein at least 95% of the cells in said composition are characterized as  $c\text{-kit}^{\text{lo}}$ ,  $\text{IL-7R}\alpha^+$ ,  $\text{lin}^-$ ; and wherein ~~said an individual progenitor cells are~~ cell in said composition is capable of giving rise to each of T cells, B cells and natural killer cells, the method comprising:

combining reagents that specifically recognize  $c\text{-kit}$ ,  $\text{IL-7R}\alpha$  and  $\text{lin}$  markers with a sample of hematopoietic cells; and

selecting for those cells that are  $c\text{-kit}^{\text{lo}}$ ,  $\text{IL-7R}\alpha^+$ ,  $\text{lin}^-$ , to provide an enriched population of cells having lymphoid lineage progenitor activity.

8. (original) A method according to Claim 7, wherein said sample of hematopoietic cells is bone marrow.

9. (original) A method according to Claim 7, wherein said sample of hematopoietic cells is mobilized peripheral blood.

10. (original) A method according to Claim 7, further comprising the step of selecting by size for blast cells.

11. (original) A method according to Claim 7, wherein said cells are mouse cells, and further comprising the steps of:

combining reagents that specifically recognize Sca-1 with said sample of hematopoietic cells; and

selecting for those cells that are Sca-1<sup>lo</sup>.

12-18 (canceled).

19. (new) An isolated mammalian hematopoietic cell characterized as c-kit<sup>lo</sup>, IL-7Rα<sup>+</sup>, lin<sup>-</sup>, wherein said cell is capable of differentiating into T cells, B cells and natural killer cells, but not into myeloid cells.

20. (new) The cell according to claim 19, further characterized as Thy-1<sup>-</sup>.

21. (new) The cell according to claim 19, herein said cell is a mouse cells, and is further characterized as Sca-1<sup>lo</sup>.

22. (new) The cell according to claim 19, further characterized as CD43<sup>lo</sup>, HSA<sup>lo</sup>, CD45<sup>+</sup> and MEL-14<sup>-</sup>.